Minutes of the Penton Grafton Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 13th of January 2026 in the Parish Office at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllr Mrs P Foster – Chairman
Cllr Mr N Blackmore – Vice Chairman
Cllr Mrs J Osborne
Cllr Mr C May
Cllr Mr J Neal
Richard Waterman – Parish Clerk
Members of the Public – Mr B Funnell and Mr T Giblet.

Apologies: Cllr Mrs H Easton, Borough Councillor Mrs L Lashbrook, Mr P Lashbrook and County Councillor Mr C Donnelly.

WELCOME.
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST.
Cllr Mrs P Foster declared an interest in the Fairground Site and the Fairground Hall.
Cllr Mr j Osborne declared an interest in the Fairground Hall.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.
The Chairman signed the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record.

FINANCE.
FINANCIAL POSITION –13th of January 2026

INCOME.
Hire of Site – Christmas Tree Sales = £400.00
= **£400.00**

EXPENDITURE.

Administration	Dec and January	= £ 960.00
Lloyds Bank	Account Charge	= £ 10.50
Website	Hosting Fee	= £ 20.64
Lewis	Electric Gate CCTV Monitoring	= £ 50.00
Barclay and Phillips	Architect Fees	= £ 954.00
Slingsby	Notice Board	= £ 244.00
C. Wilkins	Village Maintenance	= £ 41.83
PGPC Expenses	- Christmas Bonus – Tradesman	= £ 75.00
		= **£2,355.97**

Bank Account Summary.

Lloyds Current Account	£ 9,071.89
Barclays 10 day Account 1.5%	£ 660.52
	£ 9,732.41

VAT to be claimed £316.29

2026/2027 PRECEPT
The Parish Council discussed the 2026/2027 Precept. The Clerk reported on each item. It was noted that BDO the External Auditor had made comment that the Parish Councils reserves are low. The Parish Council discussed this and agreed to increase

the precept for 2026/2027 from £19,000 to £21,000 to start building up a healthy reserve. Proposed by Cllr Mr N Blackmore. Seconded by Cllr Mrs P Foster. All Agreed. The Penton Grafton Parish Council Precept for the year 2026/2027 was set at £21,000.

PENTON GRAFTON PARISH COUNCIL – Precept discussion January 2026

ESTIMATED RESULTS 2025/2026			BUDGET 2026/2027		
INCOME.					
		£			£
BFW April 2024	=	510.25	BFW April 2025	=	800.00
Precept	=	19,000.00	Precept	=	21,000.00
SEB Consent	=	36.02	SEB Consent	=	36.00
Bank Interest	=	8.17	Bank Interest	=	20.00
PC Refunds	=	1,367.16	PC Refunds	=	1,360.00
Car Park Rent	=	600.00	Car Park Rent	=	600.00
Hire Of Office	=	3,000.00	Hire of Office	=	3,000.00
Total =		**£24,521.60**	Total =		**£ 26,816.00**
EXPENDITURE.					
Parish Clerk	=	4,800.00	Parish Clerk	=	4.800.00
Administration	=	831.18	Administration	=	1,000.00
Audit	=	1,360.00	Audit	=	1,500.00
Telephone/BB	=	960.00	Telephone/BB	=	960.00
Village Maint	=	1,288.67	Village Maint	=	1,300.00
Project	=	3,180.00	Project	=	5,000.00
F.S.S.	=	6,039.47	F.S.S.	=	500.00
Gate CCTV	=	300.00	Gate CCTV	=	300.00
Street Lighting	=	190.00	Bus Shelter	=	2,000.00
Notice Board	=	244.00			
Reserves	=	4,000.00	Reserves	=	9,000.00
Resilience	=	521.53			
Total =		**£23,714.85**	Total =		**£26,360.00**
Surplus Balance		**£ 806.75**	Surplus Balance		**£ 456.00**
		£24,521.60			**£26,816.00**
Reserves £7,000.00			**Reserves £16,000.00**		

PLANNING.
24/02655/FULLN – Demolition of existing public house and flat and construction of 9 dwellings – The Weyhill Fair, Weyhill – NON-DETERMINATION.

25/02832/LBWN – Window replacement and refurbishment – Yewlands, Penton Lane, Penton Grafton – NO OBJECTION.

25/02831/FULLN – External works to include re-organisation of car parking through removal of hardstanding and provision of tarmac surfacing, erection of handrail and new picket fencing and gates – South Lodge, Ramridge Park – NO OBJECTION.

25/02852/FULLN – single storey infill extension, erection of pergola and alteration to entrance doorways – Ramridge Dene, Weyhill Bottom – NO OBJECTION.

25/02666/FULLN – Single storey rear extension to provide a ground floor bedroom – 4 Grafton Place, Penton Grafton – PERMISSION

DRAFT BOROUGH PLAN.
Test Valley Borough Council have announced that the Draft Borough Plan will now go straight to section 19. It was noted that there has been a new transport assessment.

CLLR MR N BLACKMORE'S REPORT.

Highways.
The A342 traffic island and pedestrian crossing – The current situation is that our County Councillor Chris Donnelly is pursuing this. County Highways have been asked to design and quote for a replacement Traffic Island/Pedestrian Refuge correctly positioned for safe crossing. In the absence of County funding, it is hoped that TVBC Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding can be obtained. Our District Councillor Linda Lashbrook is supporting this. - Ongoing.

Weyhill Bottom Crossroads – Parishioners have raised a visibility concern regarding the positioning of the Brown "Lion" sign. This has been taken up yet again, and again with County Highways but has not as yet been addressed. -Ongoing. The promised Solar powered Crossroads Speed Signs have still not been installed. This is now over 18 months. - Ongoing.

The New Solar powered - Speed signs appear to be working well, and from casual observation seem to be effective. We need a volunteer to monitor to collect and collate the traffic data now available from these signs. – ongoing

The A342 Working Group.
The A342 Working Group is progressing well and making good headway with collecting information, data, and evidence. There is good progress with various topics to produce a Transport Strategy and Report for the area. – ongoing.
A major problem for the group, and the whole area is that Hampshire County Highways have not been collecting data from the three of the four Automatic Traffic Counters since 2010. They are insisting upon charging for activating them. So far various funding sources have been approached without success. How any Transport Plan or HCC input to the TVBC DLP can be trusted without accurate data is beyond my comprehension. – ongoing.

Weyhill. Nothing to report

Fly tipping. Nothing to report.

Resilience.
The generator was purchased some months ago and wiring is all complete. Also, a Generator House has been installed. A full commissioning test will be conducted as soon as possible - ongoing.

Flooding.
The Upper Anton Parishes Flood Forum continue to work towards improving the flooding and sewage problems. The last meeting was last week. It was attended by Southern Water. The New Appleshaw and Penton Mewsey Infiltration Plan has been published. Work on lining the SW and Private sewers commenced on the 5th of January. Phases and Timescales have been published and circulated. SW have written to residents affected. Once completed the over pumping (Tankers) should be a thing of the past.
The issue of Landowners not maintaining watercourses is now being pursued as the primary focus of the group. – ongoing.

EA Report on Flooding at Weyhill Bottom in 2000/2001. I recently obtained a copy of this report which makes interesting reading. Whilst our Parish Council supported some recommendations but not others the commitments seem to have been lost. In the light of new EA Maps for use in Planning and the predictions for the next 99 years of Climate Change I think it worthwhile reviewing the situation. Initially the UAPFF will be looking at this but ultimately it will be up to individual Parishes to take on some responsibilities. – ongoing.

Penton Road Bus Shelter.
This shelter is in a poor state of repair and its appearance somewhat less than desirable. HCC announced recently a grant for Refurbishing Bus Shelters. A quote has been sought for refurbishing this shelter. A grant will be applied for. If we are successful with our grant application, then our bus shelter will be restored. – ongoing.

5 YEAR PLAN – Cllr Mr N Blackmore.
Cllr Mr N Blackmore reported that due to other ongoing projects work on the 5 Year Plan has been put on hold.

PARISH COUNCILLOR'S REPORTS.
CLLR MR C MAY – Reported that the Clanville Name Signs are in a bad state of repair and need replacing. Cllr Mr C May will report this on the Hampshire Highways Website.

Cllr Mr C May asked for a progress report on the Flashing Speed Signs that are intended to be sited in Clanville. The Clerk reported that he has the batteries on charge and suitable replacement batteries are being investigated.

Cllr Mr C May reported that the pond is coping well and water that collects is being drained away. However, Highways need to check the ditches as some have filled up again with silt and need clearing.
Cllr Mr C May gave an up-date on the Conholt Estate saga and the road repairs.
CLLR MRS J OSBORNE – Reported that the drainage ditches in Weyhill Bottom are all blocked. As a consequence, water is running off the road into the driveway of Weyhill Bottom Cottages. Cllr Mrs J Osborne has reported this to Highways on three occasions and has reference numbers.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING.
The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and closed the meeting.

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING.
10th of March 2026.